

# FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL

## POLICY MANUAL



SUBJECT EMERGENCY ROADBLOCKS	POLICY NUMBER 17.23
	ISSUE DATE 01/01/04
APPLICABLE CALEA STANDARDS	REVISION DATE 01/15/08
	TOTAL PAGES 3

### 17.23.01 PURPOSE

To establish an Emergency Roadblock Program for use in high-risk situations

### 17.23.02 POLICY

Emergency roadblocks addressed in this policy are inherently dangerous in that they involve high-risk situations. Emergency roadblocks will be implemented in a manner that affords the minimal amount of risk to members, bystanders, hostages, and suspects. Troop Commanders are responsible for establishing liaisons with other law enforcement agencies in their areas to ensure proper coordination of emergency roadblock procedures.

### 17.23.03 DEFINITIONS

- A. **EMERGENCY ROADBLOCK** – A restriction, obstruction, device or procedure used or intended for the purpose of preventing free passage and/or observation of motor vehicles on a roadway in order to effect the apprehension of a suspect. Driver's License and Vehicle Inspection Checkpoints and Comprehensive Roadside Safety Checkpoints are not contained in this definition.
- B. **HIGH-RISK SITUATION** – A hostage or armed felon incident occurring on the streets or highway.

### 17.23.04 OBJECTIVES

The Emergency Roadblock Program ensures that members are able to respond to high-risk situations in a uniform and coordinated manner.

### 17.23.05 RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The Director is responsible for appointing a Statewide Roadblock Coordinator.
- B. The Statewide Roadblock Coordinator is responsible for:
  - 1. Conducting an annual review of the Emergency Roadblock Program and revising roadblock procedures as deemed appropriate. The Statewide Roadblock Coordinator will forward documentation of the review to the Director by July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

2. Coordinating roadblock activities that involve multiple troops.
  3. Maintaining records of roadblock activities.
- C. Communications Center Commanders (Captain) are responsible for the maintenance of the emergency roadblock program within their areas of responsibility and shall:
1. Ensure that each district conducts a minimum of one simulated roadblock exercise each month.
  2. Ensure that a report of the troop's roadblock activities is forwarded through the chain of command to the appropriate Deputy Director of Field Operations and the Statewide Roadblock Coordinator each month.
  3. Familiarizing Communications Center personnel with the Emergency Roadblock Program.
  4. Compiling reports of district emergency roadblock activities.
  5. Conducting a monthly-simulated roadblock exercise in coordination with the Regional Communications Center.
  6. Assisting district personnel in conducting simulated roadblock exercises.
- D. District Commanders shall serve as Roadblock Coordinators and are responsible for:
1. Overseeing emergency roadblock related training exercises and in-service training in conjunction with the Troop Training Coordinator.
  2. Establishing roadblock points for each county in the district.

#### **17.23.06 PROCEDURES**

##### **A. EMERGENCY ROADBLOCK PROCEDURES GUIDE**

1. The Emergency Roadblock Procedures Guide is confidential. The guide is exempt from public release under Section 119.07(3)(d), Florida Statutes.
2. Each member will be issued an Emergency Roadblock Procedures Guide. The guide is to be kept in the passenger compartment of the member's patrol vehicle.
3. A copy of the Emergency Roadblock Procedures Guide will be maintained at each radio console in every communication center.
4. A copy of the Emergency Roadblock Procedures Guide will be maintained in the Shift Commander's office.
5. The Emergency Roadblock Procedures Guide is adopted by reference. Failure of employees to adhere to or carryout applicable provisions may result in disciplinary action.

- B. Each communications center will maintain maps of their geographic areas of responsibility. The maps should be laminated with a dry-erase compatible surface.
- C. Each communications center will maintain a log of all emergency roadblock activities including simulated roadblock exercises. A Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) incident will be created for roadblock activities including exercises. The Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) incident will record, at a minimum; members assigned, location of roadblock(s), type of roadblock, roadblock code. The Communications Center Commander (Captain) will forward a copy of the incident to the Statewide Roadblock Coordinator each month.